Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Sustained-release morphine sulphate microgranules each comprising a neutral support grain coated with an active layer and with a sustained-release layer, characterized in that the sustained-release layer contains a copolymer of methacrylic acid and of methyl methacrylate ester, the relative proportion of the free carboxyl groups and of the ester groups of which is equal to 0.5 approximately, and a silica exhibiting a hydrophobic character.

2. (Original) Microgranules according to Claim 1, characterized in that the hydrophobic silica represents from 0.2 to 1% by weight of the microgranules.

3. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 1, characterized in that the acrylic copolymer represents advantageously 5 to 15% by weight of the microgranules.

4. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 1, characterized in that the neutral support grain coated with the active layer contains 40% to 50% of morphine sulphate and 10 to 20% of a pharmaceutically acceptable binder.

5. (Currently amended) Microgranules according to claim 1, characterized in that the sustained-release layer contains a plasticizer ~~such as triethylcitrate~~ and a lubricant.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Microgranules according to claim 4, characterized in that their composition is as follows:~~ Sustained-release morphine sulphate microgranules each comprising a neutral support grain coated with an active layer and with a sustained-release layer, characterized in that the sustained-release layer contains a copolymer of poly(ethyl acrylate, methyl methyacrylate, trimethylammonioethyl methacrylate chloride) 1:2:0.1.

~~Morphine sulphate~~	~~30 – 40~~	~~%~~
~~Neutral support grain~~	~~30 – 40~~	~~%~~
~~Binder~~	~~10 – 20~~	~~%~~
~~Methacrylic acid copolymer~~	~~5 – 15~~	~~%~~
~~Plasticizer~~	~~1 – 2.5~~	~~%~~
~~Lubricant~~	~~2 – 4~~	~~%~~
~~Hydrophobic silica~~	~~0.2 – 1~~	~~%~~

7. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 1, characterized in that the relative mass proportion of the morphine sulphate and of the neutral support grain is between 40/60 and 60/40.

8. (Previously presented) Microgranules according to claim 1, characterized in that the morphine sulphate represents 30 to 40% by mass of the microgranules.

9. (Previously presented) Process for preparing the microgranules according to claim 1, characterized in that the active layer and the sustained-release layer are applied onto the neutral grains by emplcing in aqueous solution.

10. (Previously presented) Pharmaceutical composition containing the microgranules according to claim 1 optionally obtained according to the process for preparing the microgranules, characterized in that the active layer and the sustained-release layer are applied onto the neutral grains by emplacing in aqueous solution.

11. (New) Microgranules according to claim 5, wherein the plasticizer is triethylcitrate.

12. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 30-40 %wt morphine sulphate.

13. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 30-40 %wt neutral support grain.

14. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 10-20 %wt binder.

15. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 1-2.5 %wt plasticizer.

16. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 2-4 %wt lubricant.

17. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 0.2-1 %wt hydrophobic silica.

18. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 5-15 %wt methacrylic acid copolymer.

19. (New) Microgranules according to claim 6, further comprising 30-40 %wt morphine sulphate, 30-40 %wt neutral support grain, 10-20 %wt binder, 1-2.5 %wt plasticizer, 2-4 %wt lubricant, and 0.2-1 %wt hydrophobic silica.